

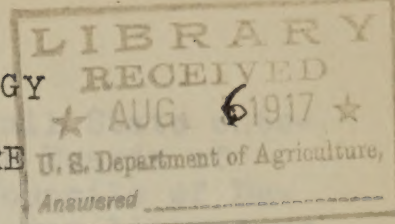
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## MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

85  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 39.

July, 1917

## AMBULANCE FUND

Employees of all branches of the Department have responded most generously to the ambulance fund. The amount received up to the present time being sufficient for three fully equipped motor ambulances, the Office of Markets alone furnishing one.

## STATUS OF EMPLOYEES UNDER THE SELECTIVE DRAFT LAW

The status of employees under the selective service law was indicated in a memorandum issued by the Secretary of Agriculture on July 13, 1917. Copies of this circular have been generally distributed. Any agents who have not received copies should notify the Bureau at once.

It is to be noted that the Department will not recommend exemptions in the case of persons serving under temporary appointments.

## BUREAU VISITORS DURING JULY

Prof. K. W. Dammermann of Java.

Prof. H. A. Garman of the University of Kentucky.

Prof. E. R. Scholl, Entomologist, Texas Department of Agriculture.

Prof. F. B. Paddock, Entomologist, Texas Experiment Station.

Prof. S. W. Bilsing, Professor of Entomology, Texas A. & M. College.

Mr. E. L. Ayers, Chief of Nursery Inspection Service, Texas Department of Agriculture.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS DESIRED BY THE BUREAU LIBRARY

Since July 1913 articles by members of the Bureau which have appeared in nondepartmental publications have been recorded and filed in the Bureau library. These now number nine hundred and ninety four. That this record may be complete, all members of the Bureau are urged to send to the library copies of such separates by them as soon as issued.







The library is sending a request to all State entomologists, Agricultural Experiment Stations; State Boards of Health, State Horticultural Societies and State Councils of Defense to be put on their mailing lists to receive war literature on insects. Field men of the Bureau are asked to send to the Library publications of this nature or a memorandum of any especially timely ones coming to their attention. It is certain that libraries will be more and more looked to for complete files of war literature pertaining to their special subjects and the library of this Bureau will aim to preserve as complete a file as possible of these emergency entomological publications both for our own present information and for their historical value.

The Librarian of the Department has recently been appointed Chairman of the Food Information Committee, a subcommittee of the American Library Association War Service Committee.

#### REPORT OF THE EDITORIAL SECTION FOR 1916-17.

The report of the Editorial Section to the Chief of the Bureau shows a total of 132 manuscripts handled during the year ended June 30, 1917. This was made up of 76 publications issued, 44 publications left in the press or with the Division of Publications, and 12 manuscripts on hand. Owing to the press of emergency work, produced by the entrance of this country in the world war, many publications which ordinarily would have been issued, are still pending.

#### WANTED.

Sendings of the following material, as indicated, will be appreciated, and due credit will be given, especially in such cases wherein notes are submitted.

MATERIAL WANTED	ADDRESS
Chalcidid parasites and notes on same.....	E. J. Newcomer, Portland, Ore.
Eggs of Hemiptera: Notes on same: Records of predaceous Hemiptera:	E. H. Gibson, U. S. National Museum.
Oestridae.....	Dr. C. H. T. Townsend, U. S. National Museum.
Insects infected with bacterial disease.....	Dr. G. F. White, Bureau of Entomology.
Insects infected with fungous disease: Scale insects especially infected with fungous disease..	Dr. A. T. Speare, Bureau of Entomology.







MATERIAL WANTED

ADDRESS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Live specimens: Cowpea weevil<br>[Bruchus (Pachymerus) chinensis]: Pink cornworm (Batrachedra rileyi).....                              | Dr. F. H. Chittenden, Bureau<br>of Entomology.  |
| Larvae and notes on LeConte's<br>sawfly (Diprion lecontei) or<br>any species of Diprion.....  | S. A. Rohwer, East Falls Church,<br>Va.   |
| Cutworms, live; for taxonomic<br>studies.....   | E. C. Crumb, Clarksville, Tenn.   |
| Fleas.....  | F. C. Bishopp, Dallas, Tex.   |
| Live specimens: Larvae of horn-<br>tails ( <u>Tremex</u> , <u>Xiphydria</u> ,<br><u>Xeris</u> , <u>Sirex</u> , and <u>Urocerus</u> .... | William Middleton, Eastern<br>Field Station, East Falls<br>Church, Va.                    |
| Live specimens: <u>Corydalis</u> adults,<br>for anatomical purposes.....  | Dr. A.G. Boving or F.C. Craig-<br>head, Eastern Field Station,<br>East Falls Church, Va.  |
| Live specimens: Spinach aphid<br>( <u>Myzus persicae</u> ) and potato<br>aphid ( <u>Macrosiphum solanifolii</u> )                       | Dr. F. H. Chittenden, Bureau<br>of Entomology.  |
| News clippings relating to ento-<br>mology.....   | Dr. L. O. Howard, Bureau of<br>Entomology.  |
| News clippings (especially) re-<br>lating to "insects as food for<br>man".....  | Dr. L. O. Howard, Bureau of<br>Entomology.  |
| Entomological contributions and<br>articles published outside of<br>the Department of Agriculture.                                      | Miss Mabel Colcord, In Charge<br>of Library, Bureau of Ento-<br>mology, Washington, D. C. |

LIBRARY

Miss Mabel Colcord, In Charge.

NEW BOOKS:

- Cowan, Frank.—Curious facts in the history of insects. Phila-  
delphia, 1865. 396p.
- Graig, C. F.—The malarial fevers, haemoglobinuric fever and  
the blood protozoa of man. N.Y., 1909. 477p. illus.
- Dunn, L. H.—The coconut-tree caterpillar (Brassolis isthmia)  
of Panama. (Proceedings of the Medical Association of the  
Isthmian Canal Zone...v.9, pt. 1, p. 32-48, pl. 1-5. Jan-June,  
1916).







Gage, S. H.—The microscope; an introduction to microscopic methods and to histology... 12th ed. Ithaca, N.Y. 1917. 472p. illus. Bibliography, p. 445-452.

Kerschbaumer, Fritz.—Malaria, ihr Wesen, ihre entstehung und ihre Verhütung. Wien u. Leipzig, 1901. 170p. 61 pl.

Lelean, P. S.—Sanitation in war. Ed. 2. London 1917. 335p. illus.

Shelford, R. W. C.—A naturalist in Borneo, edited by E. B. Poulton. London, 1916. 331p. illus.

Shipley, E. E.—Studies in insect life. London, 1917. 338p.

Sollmann, T. H.—A laboratory guide in pharmacology. Philadelphia and London, 1917. 355p. illus.

U. S. War Department.—Regulations for the army of the United States, 1913, corrected to April 15, 1917 (Changes, Nos. 1 to 55). Washington, D. C. 1917. 416p.

#### BEE CULTURE.

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge.

Dr. E. F. Phillips went to Denver, Colo., the last of the month to attend a meeting of beekeepers of Colorado and adjacent States.

Kennith Hawkins left July 9 to attend State meetings of county agents in Oklahoma, Texas and other Southern States. He will spend the latter part of August in Virginia, holding local meetings of beekeepers in cooperation with county agents.

A. P. Sturtevant recently made a trip in New Jersey and Massachusetts studying European foulbrood conditions.

C. E. Bartholomew is recovering from his attack of pleurisy and is again taking up his work in Tennessee.

Miss Myrtle Duckett resigned July 23 to accept a position in the War Department.

#### DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist In Charge.

Robert B. McKeown, a graduate of the Colorado Agricultural College, and Assistant in that institution, has been appointed as Scientific Assistant in the Bureau and assigned under John B. Gill to pecan insect investigations in Texas. Messrs. Gill and McKeown are now in Texas in consultation with the authorities of the Texas Agricultural College and Experiment Station, and will locate a laboratory at a point where conditions are most favorable for the work.



U.S. War Department, Division of Entomology, Washington, D.C. 1917. 43pp.

Shelford, R. W. C. A. Entomologist in Europe, edited by E. B. Ross. London, 1916. 33pp. illus.

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Warren D. Whitcomb, a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has been appointed as Scientific Assistant in the Bureau and has been detailed to assist A. J. Flebut in connection with the investigation of chestnut weevils and other nut insects in the northern states.

William O. Ellis, Instructor in Forest Entomology in the Syracuse University, has been appointed as Scientific Assistant and has been assigned for the present to work in Washington in connection with insecticide studies and orchard-insect survey work.

F. E. Brooks, in charge of the Bureau laboratory at French Creek, W. Va., visited Michigan and Wisconsin during the latter part of June in connection with his studies of apple-tree and other borers.

Chester I. Bliss has been appointed as Field Assistant to assist in connection with investigations of the grape berry-moth at Sandusky, Ohio.

G. A. Rünner, formerly employed under the direction of Dr. W. D. Hunter, has been transferred to the Office of Deciduous Fruit Insect Investigations, and assigned to duty at Sandusky, Ohio, in connection with grape-insect investigations.

#### FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

C. L. Marlatt, Chairman.

G. E. Mozzette, formerly Assistant State Entomologist of Oregon, has been appointed entomological inspector of the Board and assigned to duty in Washington.

H. F. Dietz is now in New York investigating the fumigation of orchids. The experimental work conducted by Messrs. Süsser and Dietz with orchids has demonstrated that orchids can be safely fumigated with one ounce of sodium cyanid in a 20-inch vacuum at an exposure of 40 minutes without injury, provided reasonably healthy plants are used; in fact, with healthy plants as strong a dose as four ounces of cyanid has been used under the same conditions without killing the plants. A month after treatment the plants so treated are making new growth, both roots and buds.

Mr. A. D. Borden has recently completed an inspection of the Plant Introduction Garden at Chico, Cal., and is now with Mr. Woglum carrying out the program announced in the last letter.

The Mexican border control in relation to the pink bollworm has been readjusted as follows, under the general field direction of T. C. Barber:







El Paso - J. C. Hazlin and W. W. Maxwell, Jr.  
 Eagle Pass - J. A. Dew and G. G. Harris.  
 Laredo - O. D. Deputy and T. E. Hagan.  
 Brownsville - A. C. Mason.

These assignments cover the principal ports of entry. The supervision of the minor parts of entry are divided among the ports named, and the work is accomplished in cooperation with the customs service and with such occasional visits from the inspectors of the Board as the requirements may necessitate.

An estimate has been prepared for the Urgent Deficiency Bill of this session, calling for an appropriation of \$500,000 to still further safeguard the United States from the pink bollworm. A conference was held on July 17 on this work, participated in by representatives appointed by the Governor of Texas, namely, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Messrs. Ayers and Scholl, and by Mr. Paddock, representing the experiment station, and Mr. Ousley, temporarily acting as Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, representing the State at large and particularly the State Extension Service. There was also a committee of planters, representing the Lower Rio Grande Valley, present. The work proposed under the appropriation requested is the establishment of a cotton-free zone in Texas along the Mexican border, the survey and stamping out of local points of infestation in Mexico near the Texas border, and general surveys of the infested district in the Laguna and elsewhere in Mexico to be the basis of determining the advisability of undertaking exterminative work against the pink bollworm in Mexico generally.

#### FOREST ENTOMOLOGY.

A. D. Hopkins, Entomologist In Charge.

Dr. Hopkins spent the first week of the month in the Washington office and returned to his work at Kanawha Station, West Virginia.

Jacob Kotinsky spent June 27 in Philadelphia where, with the assistance of F. M. Trimble of the Pennsylvania State Zoological Service and the Federal Horticultural Board, elm-leaf beetle (Calerucella luteola Mull.) eggs were located and a colony of parasites received by Dr. Howard from M. F. Picard of the Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture, Montpellier, France, was released. Small colonies of this parasite were also released in Ithaca, New York by Prof. Robt. Matheson and by Mr. Kotinsky in Washington, D. C. No prediction as to results can be made as yet.

William Middleton is very anxious to obtain biological material of horntails (Siricoidea) but especially determined larvae or larvae with a sufficient quantity of the host plant for rearing. In making notes please give host, locality, date of collection, relative abundance, etc. Collections of adults with data will be valuable additions to the collection. The larvae of the horntails are all wood borers living in dead or dying coniferous or deciduous trees. The species of the genera Tremex and Xithyria







live in deciduous trees while those of the genera Xeris, Sirex, and Urocetus live in coniferous trees. The material should be sent to the Eastern Field Station, East Falls Church, Virginia.

#### SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. D. Hunter, Entomologist in Charge.

Dr. W. D. Pierce is on a general trip through the South. He will visit the laboratories at Madison, Florida; Mound, La., Clarksville, Tenn., Dallas, Texas; Uvalde, Texas, and El Centro, California.

E. S. Chamberlin was appointed a scientific assistant on July 5, and has been assigned to work on tobacco insects under F. L. McDonough, Quincy, Florida.

G. D. Pylant was appointed a temporary field assistant for work on cotton insects at Madison, Florida, under G. D. Smith.

Geo. E. Quinter was appointed a field assistant for temporary service at the laboratory at Clarksville, Tenn.

G. N. Wolcott now serving under temporary appointment on work relating to sugar-cane insects held the first number drawn under the selective service act in his home precinct in New York.

G. D. Pylant and J. D. Smith have also been drafted into the military service.

#### TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

C. L. Marlatt, Entomologist In Charge.

Harold Morrison, whose trip of exploration to the Virgin Islands and in the West Indies has been referred to in previous letters, has completed his work in the Virgin Islands and Porto Rico and is probably now in Santo Domingo. Some very interesting communications have been received from him in relation to this work, and a good deal of valuable material. Valuable material is also being received from the collaborators appointed in Central and South American countries in connection with the study of the fruit flies and other insect pests of such countries.

The monthly conditions of the work in Florida and California are covered in the Emergency Entomological Service Bulletin.

A general bulletin (Dept. Bull. 491) on the melon fly by Back and Pemberton has just been issued. A paper has just been received from Mr. Pemberton on the subject of fruit-fly parasites in Hawaii during 1916.





## TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist In Charge.

H. O. Marsh, who, for several years, has been in charge of sugar beet and truck crop insect investigations at Rocky Ford, Colo., visited the Bureau for consultation, and will look over the field on Long Island with a view to establishing a station there where one was formerly maintained but abandoned.

H. R. Shoemaker has been appointed for temporary work at Arlington Farms where this branch of the Bureau maintains a truck garden for experimental purposes.

Boyd L. Boyden, engaged in work on sugar beets at Pasadena, Calif., has resigned, his resignation taking effect July 31.

F. B. Milliken, employed for some time in Kansas as Scientific Assistant, has resigned to take up work on stored product insects under the direction of Dr. E. A. Back.

A. B. Duckett, formerly employed in this branch of the Bureau, has resigned but will continue along the same lines as formerly in stored product insects under the direction of Dr. E. A. Back.

Miss Pauline Margaret Johnson, Scientific Assistant, resigned, effective August 15. Miss Johnson served the Bureau faithfully for six years.

Mr. F. M. Wadley will be in charge of the Station at Wichita, Kans., vice F. B. Milliken.

H. L. Weatherby will be in temporary charge of the station at Rocky Ford, Colo., formerly in charge of Mr. Marsh.

## CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. R. Walton, Entomologist In Charge.

J. J. Davis reports that the Hessian-fly wheat-sowing experimental plots have been cut and results have proven highly satisfactory. The substation at Nashville, Ill., will be continued and the work will not be transferred to southern Indiana, as had been previously planned.

J. S. Wade has been transferred from the Wellington Field Station to Washington, D. C., where he will assist Mr. Walton in the office work for the present.

F. H. Gates, formerly attached to the Tempe, Arizona, station, has resigned from the service, effective July 1.

J. W. Bailey has been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Gates' resignation.







W. T. Emery has been transferred from Charlottesville, Va., to the Wellington [Kansas] field station, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Wade's transfer to Washington.

Frederick W. Poos has been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Emery's transfer.

W. C. Cartwright has been appointed Scientific Assistant and assigned to the Knoxville, Tenn., station for the present.

Prof. P. H. Hertzog has been appointed Field Assistant and assigned temporarily to the Carlisle, Pa., station.

Philip Luginbill, who was ill for several weeks with typhoid fever, is again at his post of duty in charge of the Columbia, S. C., station.

H. L. Dozier is assisting Mr. Luginbill for the summer months.

